



**Home, Opportunity, Planning, and Equity (HOPE)
Advisory Board Meeting
Approved Minutes
January 26, 2021 from 4 pm to 6 pm
ZOOM Meeting**



Members Present: Catherine Biscoe; Karyle Butcher; Bruce Butler; Bryan Cotter; Anita Earl; Joel Goodwin; George Grosch; Barbara Hanley; Cindee Lolik (Business Associate); Charles Maughan* (Corvallis City Council); Jim Moorefield* (Co-Chair); Andrea Myhre; Jan Napack* (Corvallis City Council); Reece Stotsenberg* (Co-Chair); Nancy Wyse* (Chair of Board of Commissioners).

Excused: Pegge McGuire* (CSC Director)

Absent:

Staff Present: Julie Arena (Benton County Health, HOPE Program Coordinator); Paula Felipe (Benton County Public Health, recorder); Joe Hahn, Diversity Coordinator.

Guests: *Executive Committee Members.

- I. **Welcome and Introductions.** Reminder of culture of agreements
- II. **Public Comments (limited to 2-3 minutes).** No Comments.
- III. **Approval of Minutes: MOTION** made by Karyle Butcher to approve the November 2021 minutes. Seconded by Joel Goodwin. All in favor; **MOTION** passed. Roll Call: Abstained due to not being in attendance at November meeting: Cindee Lolik.
- IV. **Educational Component: Data analysis with trends over time for the Point in Time (PIT) Homelessness count and local shelter admission data and capacity.** – Guest Presenter: Brad Smith - SHELTERWARE
 - PIT Count from 2020: mandated by fed government on 2 year basis.
 - Question relative percentage of men and women in the homeless populations?
 - Ratio of men and women: men outnumber 2 to 1: consistent across all three counties.
 - Impacts where choose to put resources. Expand capacity of men or women’s shelter. Pit count only as good as process.
 - Lincoln County has higher number of homeless than Linn or Benton County.
 - Racial composition: Looking at last 5 years in Benton shelters: see unusually high percentage identify as Native American: 15 percent. Native Americans in state of Oregon under 1 percent of population. Overrepresented in homeless population; magnitude surprising.
 - Average age is 56 years old vs life expectancy of 79 years
 - 85-95 shelter beds per night in Benton County
 - Operating at 75-85 capacity
 - Capacity at Room at the Inn needs to be expanded
 - No increase in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) during past year.

- Covid vaccination status in shelters; 50 – 80 percent (Good job Public Health!)
- No evidence of substantial influx of new people in area.
- To see more details and percentages, see Brad Smith’s powerpoint on HOPE Website.

DISCUSSION:

- George: studies say lack of affordable housing; shelter is basic. Other types of housing needs? Brad can speak to shelter side of it; women’s shelter not adequate.
- Jim Moorefield: the idea are we a magnet for homeless drives me crazy—it includes the unspoken assumption our service systems are special, but Corvallis is not unique and we are behind some others. Looked at statewide data: Benton County has lower rate of homeless,
- Jim: What about percentage of homeless with significant health problems?
- Brad: need to think about each issues; not specific to a county; regional set of issues; issue not in a vaccum; consider comprehensively.
- Both physical and mental health issues: 3 years exercise; look at people in system; subjective; ranked who has major medical issues we know about. Mostly mental health issues and addiction issues. We observed mental health issues were at least 50 percent and probably 2/3 had moderate to severe physical issues; addiction and rapidly aging population; dangerous; high mortality rate.
- Look at age distribution: Look at facilities highlight important of access issues in shelter population. Severe mobility issues.
- Karyle Butcher:
- Brad comment: in shelters see more and more with severe problems; many are well beyond the capacity of shelters to handle; not set up to complex long term medical issues; not hospice or major health issues.

V. Board Member Changes and Introductions and recent updates from each of the HOPE Board Members

- New role members on HOPE Executive Committee
 - Business Community: Christina Jancila served the first 2-year term. Cindee Lolik from the Co-Op will serve during the second 2-year term starting in January 2022.
 - County Commissioner: Nancy Wyse transitioning into this role; Xan Augerot transitioning out.
 - Board members who recently moved on: Janie Tebeau, Aleita Hass-Holcombe, Flip Anderson, Dharma Mirzha.
- Five vacancies on the board (21 members total).
- Who’s on the HOPE Board?
 - **Direct service providers (2):**
 - Anita Earl, LCSW – Samaritan Homeless Resource Team
 - Andrea Myhre – Executive Director at Corvallis Housing First
 - **Service organizations (2):**
 - Bruce Butler – CEO of IHN-CCO
 - Pegge McGuire – Acting Director CSC
 - **Business Owners (2):**
 - Cindee Lolik
 - Reece Stotsenberg
 - **First responders (2):**

- Captain Joel Goodwin – Corvallis Police Department
- Bryan Cotter, EMT – Corvallis Fire Department
- **Government representatives (4):**
 - Nancy Wyse – Benton County Commissioner
 - Jan Napack and Charles Maughan – Corvallis City Councilors
 - Catherine Biscoe – Philomath City Council
- **Members with non-specific affiliation (4):**
 - Karyle Butcher (LWV Corvallis)
 - George Grosch (Kings Valley)
 - Barbara Hanley (MPH, public health research, member-at-large)
 - Jim Moorefield (retired, former affordable housing developer)

VI. Co-Chairs Duties and Benefits

- Serve on the Executive Committee which meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 4-5pm to:
 - Determine meeting agendas and scheduling.
 - Appoint Advisory Board members when vacancies arise.
 - Review and assist the full Advisory Board to align its work with the bylaws.
 - Establish any associated committees or ad hoc work groups, define their membership, and provide direction regarding their work.
- Run the HOPE Advisory Board meetings in line with the vision that everyone should have the opportunity to live in decent, safe, and affordable housing. Run the meetings in line with the values articulated in the bylaws:
 - Use data to drive assessments, prioritization, and accountability.
 - Take a comprehensive systems and multi-sector approach.
 - Engage and involve the community.
 - Prioritize vulnerable populations.
 - Promote community safety for all.
 - Promote racial and ethnic justice.

VII. Recruitment priorities for Board Vacancies

- **Current board make up includes:**
 - Mostly white/Caucasian people.
 - 3 people with race/ethnicity that is mixed race: Caucasian and Indigenous North American (Ojibway/Chippewa); Caucasian and Middle Eastern; and Caucasian and East Indian.
 - 2 business owners.
 - 2 have personally experienced homelessness.
 - 3 experienced housing insecurity and poverty.
 - 3 with close family members experiencing homelessness.
- **Recruitment is prioritizing:**
 - People from communities of color, in particular our Black, Native American, and Hispanic Communities.
 - Business owners.
 - People who have experienced homelessness.

VIII. Update on Implementation of HOPE Recommendations in the community (Brigetta Olson, City of

Corvallis Housing Manager and Julie Arena, HOPE Coordinator)

- **City, County, CSC, and Provider work to expand Emergency Sheltering**
 - Improving the City/County/CSC/ Provider partnership through regular meetings for information sharing, collaborative planning, and role clarification.
 - City and County pursuing hosting 4 microshelters at City Hall and 4 at the Fairgrounds. Joint RFP has been released.
 - CSC added staff capacity to improve data quality and support for providers for training and data reporting.
 - Entities are continuing to coordinate on site research, site visits, and vetting for locations for emergency and transitional housing.
 - City may apply for up to 750K of capital at State, if site is identified.
 - Implementing coordinated entry
- **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)**
 - Corvallis Housing First (CHF) has secured state and federal funding for development of about 40 units of PSH at 3rd Street Commons. In predevelopment stage working with developers and city on possibilities.
 - City and County have funded predevelopment and site improvements.
 - City of Corvallis just funded 4 units of PSH with CHF in January 2022
- **Additional development**
 - Historic levels of funding at Oregon Housing and Community Services. Over 400 million in available resources for the development of affordable housing.
 - Construction of 100 units of affordable rentals begins this Spring, Commonwealth. Site is high density residential.
 - City staff working with multiple affordable developers, potential of roughly 250 new affordable rentals
- **Additional development resources**
 - **City Resources**
 - CDBG – \$80,000- human services, 300K for capital
 - 1 Million of HOME ARPA
 - 1 Million of funding from legislature
 - 1.9 Million of City ARPA funding.
 - Review of 360K Social Service Policy Spring.
 - **County Resources**
 - \$500k for HOPE implementation efforts.
- **Staffing – recruiting a paid team of 3:**
 - **Project manager, communications, & financing/grants to work on multiple different projects concurrently.**
 - Communications Coordinator has just been hired for Benton County Health Department: Kailee Olson starts in February and will be dedicating about 50% of her staff time to the HOPE work.
 - Legislative Pilot Funding: City and County are being included in a state bill to fund 8 pilot areas with \$1 million over two years for staffing, coordination, and technical assistance to support a Coordinated Homeless Response Office.
 - County staff positions on the horizon that will be working on HOPE recommendations implementation for 2 years (limited duration): Project Manager and Grants Researcher/Writer

IX. What Role can the HOPE Board play to support implementation of previous recommendations?

- Evaluation and communication role: interpreting the system assessment/gaps in the system in the context of HOPE's role; communicating progress and remaining gaps.
- Researching best practices on successful systems that correspond to the 12 recommendations and are relevant to the implementation being done by city, county, and provider partners.
- Do we want or need a work group on this topic, or how else do we proceed?

DISCUSSION:

- Questions: Barbara: had data to make the recommendation and now the money is available and more things will fall into place. Getting infrastructure to move implementation recommendations forward. Kudos to Julie to connect people .
- George: we should be thankful to elective leadership and people on the ground working for years. Power of community can do; money will come; build something together. This is what it looks like.
- What role can the hope board play in supporting implementing of your recommendations? Discuss as board;
- (see slide) Evaluation and communication
- From Andrea Myhre to Everyone: 05:49 PM: I think it is our responsibility to work with CSC and partner agencies on updating the community about issues surrounding homelessness.
- From Jan Napack to Everyone: 05:51 PM: Agree...need to share successes as well.

X. Next Steps

- Recruiting new members now.
- Executive Committee meets 2/9 to make new member decisions.
- February meeting:
 - Likely electing co-chairs – if you have questions please contact Julie.
 - Equity Lens – review and refresh memory at February meeting, incorporate it into decision-making going forward.
 - Point in Time Count info from CSC.

XI. Meeting was adjourned at 6 pm.